

ABSTRACT

- 5       The present invention provides heregulin variants that are capable of binding an ErbB receptor. Included in the invention are variants of human heregulins, and, in particular, variants of human heregulin- $\beta$ 1 having enhanced affinity for the ErbB-3 and ErbB-4 receptors.
10.   These variants include at least one amino acid substitution and can include further modifications. The invention also provides nucleic acid molecules encoding heregulin variants and related vectors, host cells, pharmaceutical compositions, and methods.